

## What is good and what is not?

In the absence of religions, we need philosophy and philosophical approaches and practices more than ever to maintain, establish and develop our morals and values. Furthermore, come to an attuned mind that forever wishes well and does well. As Zarathushtra wisely guides, Good Deeds, Good Seeds, and Good Thoughts. However, what is good and what is not?

May need to mention that some may see me as an anti-religion atheist based on a modest portion of my recent writings. I have to sincerely apologize if I have offended anyone's beliefs by all means and manners by my posts. These writings are simply reflections of my everlasting intimate thoughts that may be worth sharing, surely to hear others' points of view. Not to dismiss them but to listen to them and learn more from them.

Once, an acquaintance of mine asked if I believe in God or not, and my response was, I have looked, but I have not found it yet. The next time she met me, she brought up the same conversation and said that since you are an atheist. That was when I stopped her and just asked, 'when did I ever say that I am an atheist?' She replied, 'you said it last week.'

I never told her that there is no God, or I do not believe in God! Because as confident as I might be that there is no God, logic necessitates me to consider the slightest probability of meeting God. Maybe, I get to meet God tomorrow and start preaching God to others. However, I currently rely on my less-than-perfect reasoning that disputes the notion of God and religions to be valid and divine. Furthermore, rather strives for wisdom and nobility to define and represent goodness and morality than finding a God to worship.

This is to insist that although I may not believe in God or religions, I may believe that most people need to believe in Gods and religions. Some need religions as their moral compass to guide them, and the fear of hellfire deters some.

Some people need motives to reach heaven, and they behave accordingly. Some require the anxiety of hellfire and refrain accordingly from committing genuine sins or misdeeds.

There are specific ways to define one's morals or, better said, wise and noble principles; if religions choose to understand the truth that they sincerely believe. Furthermore, go under tough reforms and improvements; they may have a better fighting chance to be around and still withhold the rights to issue values and morals.

Religions can promote both peace and harmony or war and suffering. It may not be fair to view religions as futile and pessimistic throughout history. Religions were indeed the first constitution of many nations and civilizations. They profoundly influenced law-making systems and governing bodies till today.

Currently, religion's only remaining attraction is the comfort of believing in a higher power who takes care of us and perhaps rewards us with eternal life in heaven.

Suppose religions end up getting more rejected and refuted at this pace or higher rate. In that case, their chance of a continuous existence will be much lower. They may join many ancient religions of the past if they do not bow to people's wishes one way or another at some periods in time. Moreover, fall victim to the same trends that may result in a sudden collapse of the whole religious ordeal. Furthermore, result in a higher percentage of despair and depression or violence and mischief among those that still seek religions to guide them, protect them, or keep them in check. A substitute should replace the void of religions if that day ever comes. That substitute is what I strive to find out since we may be the generation that could perhaps witness the most significant conflicts of patterns and guides. The patterns or guides are much easier to copy and imitate incoherently due to the widespread usage of motion pictures and advancements in communication. It seems like there is going to be a grander clash of patterns than the planet has ever seen.

The cat seems to be out of the bag, and as much as I believe religions and Gods are still significant in our lives, they are losing their foothold faster than ever. The thought of a world that has not found a substitute for religions and Gods terrifies me!

This is why the solution could be in philosophy or 'Love of Wisdom.' Maybe we can define morality based on wisdom. Maybe, at last, the era of enlightenment is upon us. Maybe, this is time to look for answers in the realm of wisdom and define good and bad wisely rather than taking orders from others who may not want our best.

Maybe, the era of exposure has finally arrived. It may be time to wake up if we are still asleep, considering it is easier to wake up someone sleeping than waking up someone pretending to be asleep. Moreover, religions and some people preferably pretend to be sleeping rather than being awake and take accountability.

As anti-religion as some may like to believe I am, I have witnessed religions transforming some people's lives for the better. A close relative of mine quit street drugs with the help of religion. I was not only supporting his choice. I was even encouraging him since he found peace in the religion that he chose.

I frequently advocate for religions when lies or misinformation is being spread about their teachings and doctrine. I would not stand by silently even if religions are being judged unfairly.

Many people still need religions, but are religions going to withstand the massive changes of today's societies? Or are they going to cling to their old customs without any remodelings and still demand to pass the test of time?

Maybe we need wisdom and nobility to define our morals and values since true nobility is perhaps one of the many fruits of wisdom.